

Application No. 10/635,315
Amendment dated October 13, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated June 30, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed June 30, 2005 has been carefully considered by Applicant. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing claim amendments and the remarks that follow.

Claims 5 - 6, 8, 13 - 14 and 16 - 20 are cancelled.

Claims 1 - 4, 7, 9 - 12 and 15 are presently amended and remain pending.

Claim Objections

Claims 5 - 8, 11, 12 and 14 - 18 have been objected to because of numerous informalities. By the present Amendment, claims 5 - 8, 11, 12 and 14 - 18 are either cancelled or amended to overcome the outstanding objections. The claims are thus believed in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 18 - 20 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As discussed below, the independent claims (claims 1 and 9) have been amended to include allowable subject matter from claims 5, 6 and 8 and claims 13, 14 and 16, respectively. As such, as discussed below, the claims are now believed in condition for allowance, in accordance with the statement of reasons for indication of Allowable Subject Matter set forth on page 6 of the Office Action.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,648,828 to Friedman, et al. Claims 6, 14 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,490,523 to Isaacson, et al.

By the present Amendment, claims 5, 6, 13, 14 and 17 are cancelled thus rendering the rejections regarding these claims moot.

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In addition, as discussed above, the independent claims (claims 1 and 9) have been amended to include allowable subject matter from claims 5, 6 and 8 and 13, 14 and 16, respectively. Claims 1 and 9 are thus believed in condition for allowance, in accordance with the statements made in the Office Action.

The dependent claims are also believed allowable for the reasons stated in the Office Action, as well as the detailed subject matter recited therein.

Conclusion

The present application is thus believed in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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